LAW OF LAND WARFARE

PURPOSE OF THE LAW OF WAR

- Protect combatants and non-combatants
- Safeguard fundamental human rights of prisoners
- Facilitate the restoration of peace

LAW OF WAR SOURCES

- Lawmaking Treaties
  - Geneva and Hague Conventions
- Country Specific Laws

FORBIDDEN ACTIONS

- Injuring a prisoner after surrender
- Firing on air crews descending from a disabled aircraft
- Assassination
- Compelling nationals to fight against their own countrymen

FORBIDDEN ACTIONS

- Using poison
- Attacking undefended towns or buildings
- Pillaging a town

FORBIDDEN STRATEGIES

- Faking a surrender
- Making improper use of the truce flag, red cross, or military insignia and uniform of enemy

PRISONERS OF WAR

- Do not kill wounded and sick
- Do not kill Medics and Chaplains
- Do not kill POWs to move faster

NON APPLICABILITY

- Spies
- Anyone who aids the enemy

AS A POW…

- **You are required to give:**
  - Name
  - Rank
  - Date of Birth
  - Social Security Number

WOUNDED AND SICK

- You must protect them and treat them humanely
- Cannot attack hospitals or MASH units
- Cannot attack medical transports

HOSPITALS LOOSE PROTECTION IF….

- Personnel in unit are armed
- There are sentries
- You find arms and ammo in the unit

CLOSING STATEMENTS

- If you think it’s wrong, it probably is!
- War crimes are punishable
- Reference FM 27-10

CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE I

I am an American, fighting in the forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense.

ARTICLE II

I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command, I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.

ARTICLE III

If I am captured, I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

ARTICLE IV

If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information or take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

ARTICLE V

When questioned, should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service number, and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country and its allies or harmful to their cause.

ARTICLE VI

I will never forget that I am an American, fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.